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PENNSYLVANIA EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS

VOLUME XXXII NO. 11 DATA FOR NOVEMBER RELEASED IN JANUARY 1988

COMMONWEALTH UNEMPLOYMENT CONTINUES BELOW 6 PERCENT SINCE JANUARY 1987

November's labor force data released in December by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor reveals the number of unemployed Pennsylvania residents fell by 23,000 to a seasonally adjusted total of 315,000. This represents the lowest statewide volume of joblessness since August when 314,000 Pennsylvanians were without jobs. This most recent volume of joblessness is a substantial 30,000 below the level of 345,000 recorded in November 1986. Responding to a lowering jobless volume, the rate of unemployment dropped 0.4 percentage point since October to 5.5 percent, after adjustment for seasonal influences. The seasonally adjusted rate of joblessness in the Commonwealth has remained below the six percent level since January 1987. One year ago 6.2 percent of Pennsylvania's labor force were out of work and seeking employment.

The number of unemployed, not adjusted for seasonality, dropped below the 300,000 mark. Currently at 299,000, the volume of joblessness decreased by 8,000 from the number recorded in October. Similar to the seasonally adjusted data, the volume of unemployment was reduced by 35,000 from one year ago. The drop brought the jobless rate (not seasonally adjusted) down 0.1 percentage point to 5.2 percent.

Following a substantial increase during October, seasonally adjusted employment levels in Pennsylvania slipped by 28,000 numbering 5,372,000 in November. Despite the downturn, the Commonwealth's most current employment figure is the third highest on record. During 1987, October's 5,400,000 and August's 5,383,000 remain in the top two positions marking all-time high employment.

Employment, not adjusted for seasonal influences, declined over the month by 63,000 to a November total of 5,417,000. Compared with one year ago, this unadjusted volume represents a 151,000 gain over the November 1986 level of 5,266,000.

ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT UP 143,500 OVER 1986 LEVEL

Fueled by record-setting job levels in the industries of wholesale and retail trade specifically and total nonmanufacturing generally, the number of jobs supplied by Pennsylvania businesses moved to another all-time high of 5,032,100 in November. In achieving this record level, the statewide job total posted a healthy rise of 12,700 since mid-October and is a significant 143,500 above the employment level of one year ago.

Nonmanufacturing jobs, at a record level of 3,981,800 in November, rose by 12,000 since October with most significant gains coming as the result of heavy pre-holiday staffing increases throughout the Commonwealth's retail trade establishments. Retail trade added 14,500 workers to the previous month's payroll total. Also exhibiting substantial positive monthly movement were government (up 6,500), wholesale trade (up 1,800), and educational services (up 1,700). A seasonal job curtailment in contract construction resulted in a reduction of 6,400 jobs in this industry line.

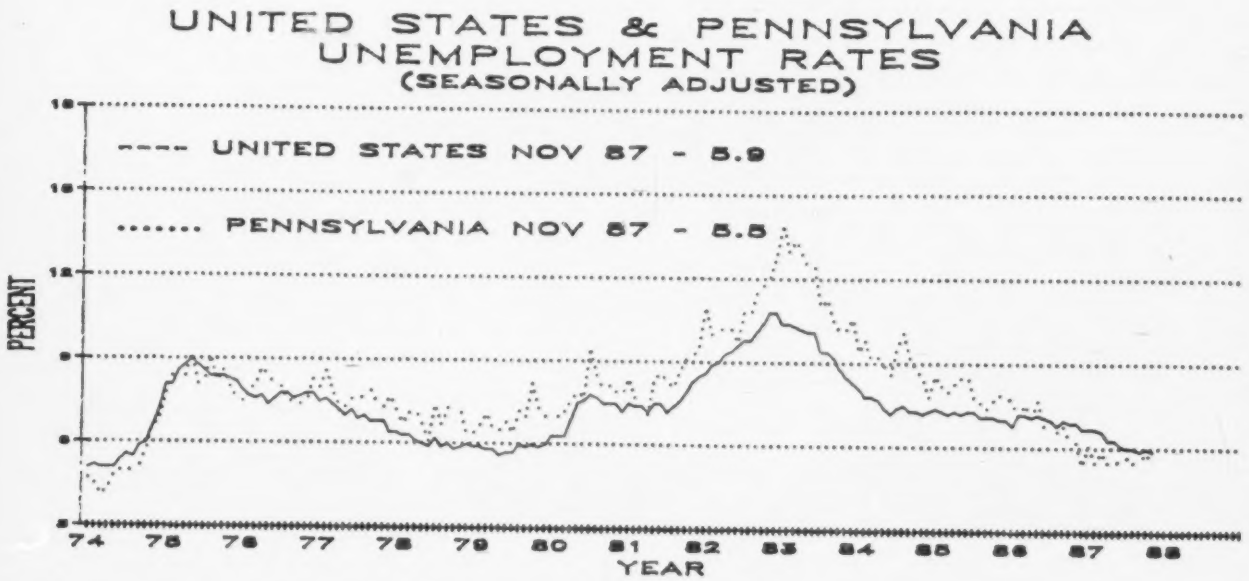
Manufacturing jobs, typically showing a slight rise in November, remained even with the month-ago tally of 1,047,700. This reversed a trend of the last three months in which manufacturing job levels exceeded those of the previous month. The static behavior of manufacturing resulted when durables advanced 1,100 over the month while nondurables slipped an equal amount. The addition of jobs within durable goods was most significant within establishments engaged in manufacturing machinery and equipment other than electrical equipment (+900) and those businesses which produce electrical equipment (+500).

AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS & WEEKLY HOURS RISE

Pennsylvania's manufacturing production workers' average hourly earnings increased six cents over the month to $10.14 in November while their hours advanced by four tenths to 41.4 resulting in average weekly earnings of $419.80. Among manufacturing industries, petroleum refining topped the list with average hourly earnings of $14.62. With average weekly hours at 41.7, this industry line's average weekly earnings were $609.65. Those workers employed in the production of women's and children's underwear earned an average of $5.61 per hour, the lowest average hourly earnings for all reported manufacturing lines. Within nonmanufacturing, the highest average hourly earnings for selected industries came in electric, gas, and sanitary services, where, at $15.56 per hour and 44.3 hours per week, translated to average weekly earnings of $689.31.

TOTAL CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN PENNSYLVANIA
(All Persons in Thousands)

RESIDENT DATA	NOVEMBER 1987	OCTOBER 1987	NOVEMBER 1986	NET CHANGE FROM: OCTOBER 1987	NET CHANGE FROM: NOVEMBER 1986
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA					
Civilian Labor Force	5,687	5,738	5,557	-51.0	130.0
Employment	5,372	5,400	5,212	-28.0	160.0
Unemployment	315	338	345	-23.0	-30.0
Unemployment Rate(%)	5.5	5.9	6.2	-0.4	-0.7
UNADJUSTED DATA					
Civilian Labor Force	5,716	5,787	5,600	-71.0	116.0
Employment	5,417	5,480	5,266	-63.0	151.0
Unemployment	299	307	334	-8.0	-35.0
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.2	5.3	6.0	-0.1	-0.8


UNITED STATES & PENNSYLVANIA
UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)
---- UNITED STATES NOV 87 - 5.9
..... PENNSYLVANIA NOV 87 - 5.5
PERCENT
YEAR
74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88

FOOTNOTES:

P/ Data are preliminary and subject to revision.
Resident Data are workers by place of residence. They include wage and salary workers, self-employed and unpaid family workers, agricultural workers and persons involved in labor managements disputes.
Establishment Data are estimates of jobs by place of work. Persons involved in labor management disputes are not included in industry line detail but are included in nonagricultural wage and salary totals.
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment data in this release have been revised to first quarter 1986 benchmarks and are, therefore, not strictly comparable with figures published prior to March 1987.
The Pennsylvania Employment and Earnings Report is published monthly. An expanded report is published quarterly. If additional data are needed, telephone (717) 787-3886.

ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT

MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRY DETAIL

PENNSYLVANIA: NOVEMBER 1987, OCTOBER 1987, and NOVEMBER 1986

(Employment in Thousands)

ESTABLISHMENT DATA	NOVEMBER 1987 P/	OCTOBER 1987	NOVEMBER 1986	(--NET CHANGE--) FROM OCTOBER 1987	FROM NOVEMBER 1986
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY	5,032.1	5,019.4	4,888.6	12.7	143.5
MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	1,047.7	1,047.7	1,037.9	0.0	9.8
DURABLE GOODS INDUSTRIES	597.9	596.8	585.3	1.1	12.6
LUMBER AND WOOD PRODUCTS	30.1	29.9	28.4	0.2	1.7
FURNITURE AND FIXTURES	21.5	21.4	20.4	0.1	1.1
STONE, CLAY, AND GLASS PRODUCTS	48.7	48.6	47.3	0.1	1.4
PRIMARY METAL INDUSTRIES	92.7	93.2	83.1	-0.5	9.6
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	90.3	90.6	90.7	-0.3	-0.4
MACHINERY, EXCEPT ELECTRICAL	105.8	104.9	103.8	0.9	2.0
ELECTRIC & ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT	92.6	92.1	97.1	0.5	-4.5
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT	60.1	60.6	58.6	-0.5	1.5
INSTRUMENTS AND RELATED PRODUCTS	34.9	34.5	35.2	0.4	-0.3
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURES	21.2	21.0	20.7	0.2	0.5
NONDURABLE GOODS INDUSTRIES	449.8	450.9	452.6	-1.1	-2.8
FOOD AND KINDRED PRODUCTS	93.0	93.4	93.1	-0.4	-0.1
TOBACCO MANUFACTURES	0.9	0.9	1.2	0.0	-0.3
TEXTILE MILL PRODUCTS	31.0	31.2	30.7	-0.2	0.3
APPAREL AND OTHER TEXTILE PRODS.	84.6	85.9	91.3	-1.3	-6.7
PAPER AND ALLIED PRODUCTS	40.1	40.1	40.2	0.0	-0.1
PRINTING AND PUBLISHING	82.1	81.7	80.4	0.4	1.7
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS	59.1	58.6	58.1	0.5	1.0
PETROLEUM AND COAL PRODUCTS	10.5	10.9	10.2	-0.4	0.3
RUBBER AND PLASTICS PRODUCTS	38.3	37.9	37.3	0.4	1.0
LEATHER AND LEATHER PRODUCTS	10.2	10.3	10.1	-0.1	0.1
NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	3,981.8	3,969.8	3,840.6	12.0	141.2
MINING	31.5	31.7	32.6	-0.2	-1.1
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	236.9	243.3	218.6	-6.4	18.3
TRANSPORTATION	143.4	142.6	142.3	0.8	1.1
PUBLIC UTILITIES	105.5	105.5	102.6	0.0	2.9
COMMUNICATIONS	50.8	50.8	48.9	0.0	1.9
ELECTRIC, GAS AND SANITARY	54.7	54.7	53.7	0.0	1.0
WHOLESALE TRADE	279.0	277.2	265.2	1.8	13.8
RETAIL TRADE	901.7	887.2	864.9	14.5	36.8
GENERAL MERCHANDISE STORES	146.9	135.9	140.0	11.0	6.9
FINANCE,INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	287.8	288.8	281.5	-1.0	6.3
BANKING	88.5	88.2	88.0	0.3	0.5
INSURANCE CARRIERS	84.5	84.7	81.5	-0.2	3.0
SERVICES AND MISCELLANEOUS	1,294.1	1,298.1	1,241.4	-4.0	52.7
BUSINESS SERVICES	222.7	222.1	204.5	0.6	18.2
HEALTH SERVICES	421.2	421.2	407.0	0.0	14.2
HOSPITALS	229.7	229.9	224.0	-0.2	5.7
LEGAL SERVICES	37.3	37.4	35.0	-0.1	2.3
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	155.8	154.1	152.6	1.7	3.2
SOCIAL SERVICES	82.3	82.0	79.1	0.3	3.2
MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES	60.8	60.8	58.1	0.0	2.7
GOVERNMENT	701.9	695.4	691.5	6.5	10.4
FEDERAL	141.3	141.0	137.9	0.3	3.4
STATE	154.6	154.2	153.5	0.4	1.1
LOCAL	406.0	400.2	400.1	5.8	5.9
PERSONS IN LABOR-MGMT. DISPUTES	2.6	1.9	10.1	0.7	-7.5

P/= Preliminary data; subject to revision.

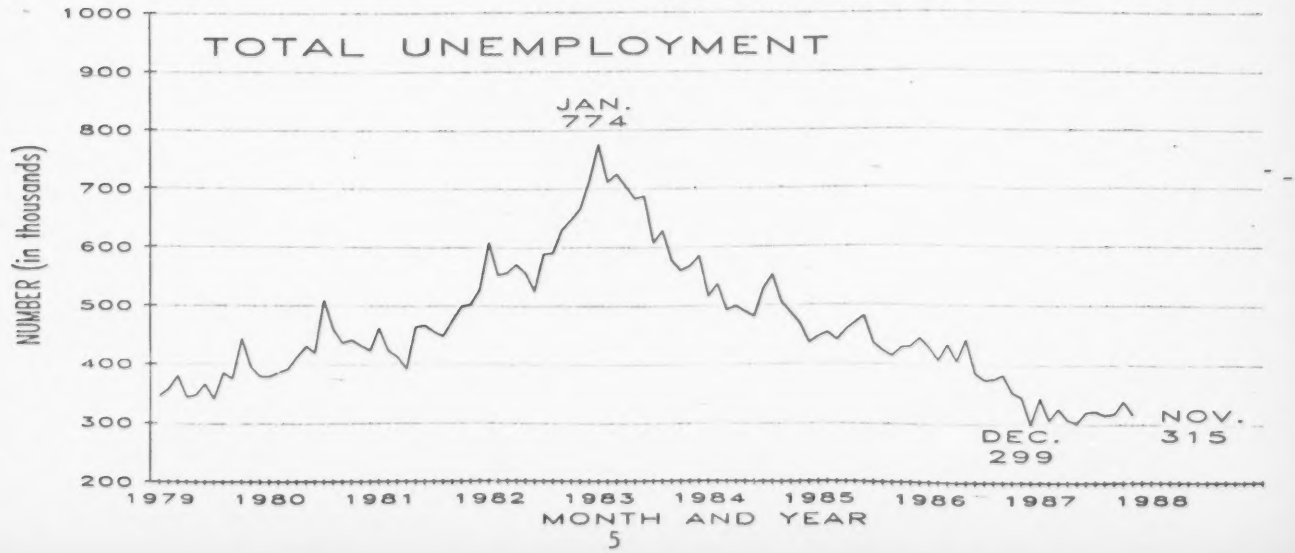
AVERAGE HOURLY AND WEEKLY EARNINGS AND WEEKLY HOURS
MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRY DETAIL
PENNSYLVANIA: NOVEMBER 1987, OCTOBER 1987, AND NOVEMBER 1986
(Production Worker Averages)

	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
INDUSTRY	NOV. 1987 P/	OCT. 1987	NOV. 1986	NOV. 1987 P/	OCT. 1987	NOV. 1986	NOV. 1987 P/	OCT. 1987	NOV. 1986
MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	419.80	413.28	392.93	41.4	41.0	40.3	10.14	10.08	9.75
DURABLE GOODS	460.70	455.52	432.19	42.5	42.1	41.2	10.84	10.82	10.49
LUMBER AND WOOD PRODUCTS	349.32	358.25	337.02	41.0	41.9	41.2	8.52	8.55	8.18
FURNITURE AND FIXTURES	367.79	365.62	336.80	41.7	41.5	39.3	8.82	8.81	8.57
STONE, CLAY, AND GLASS PRODS.	449.59	443.59	434.35	42.9	42.9	42.5	10.48	10.34	10.22
PRIMARY METALS	555.93	546.98	502.65	43.5	42.8	40.7	12.78	12.78	12.35
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	448.54	441.42	435.08	42.8	42.0	42.2	10.48	10.51	10.31
NONELECTRICAL MACHINERY	478.90	470.13	452.03	43.3	42.7	41.7	11.06	11.01	10.84
ELECTRIC AND ELECTRONIC MACH.	426.30	418.14	399.43	42.0	41.4	40.8	10.15	10.10	9.79
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT	498.87	497.31	477.96	41.4	41.1	40.3	12.05	12.10	11.86
INSTRUMENTS AND RELATED PROD.	436.22	423.07	404.97	42.6	41.6	40.7	10.24	10.17	9.95
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURES	421.45	416.42	388.52	41.4	41.6	41.2	10.18	10.01	9.43
NONDURABLE GOODS	367.20	360.48	344.96	40.0	39.7	39.2	9.18	9.08	8.80
FOOD AND KINDRED PRODUCTS	410.82	395.97	380.03	41.0	40.2	40.3	10.02	9.85	9.43
TOBACCO PRODUCTS	267.84	269.37	281.66	41.0	40.8	49.5	6.20	6.15	5.69
TEXTILE MILL PRODUCTS	285.44	283.69	271.55	39.7	39.9	39.7	7.19	7.11	6.84
APPAREL AND RELATED PRODUCTS	214.81	217.77	205.56	35.1	35.7	34.9	6.12	6.10	5.89
PAPER PRODUCTS	471.43	465.02	454.90	44.1	43.5	43.2	10.69	10.69	10.53
PRINTING AND PUBLISHING	434.28	430.64	421.48	40.1	39.8	39.8	10.83	10.82	10.59
CHEMICAL AND ALLIED PRODUCTS	526.11	513.11	492.58	44.1	43.3	42.5	11.93	11.85	11.59
PETROLEUM AND COAL PRODUCTS	563.56	559.99	575.72	41.9	42.2	42.9	13.45	13.27	13.42
RUBBER AND PLASTICS PRODUCTS	383.06	376.74	357.16	42.8	42.0	41.1	8.95	8.97	8.69
LEATHER PRODUCTS	229.52	225.29	212.42	38.0	37.8	35.7	6.04	5.96	5.95
SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES:									
ANTHRACITE COAL MINING	450.21	444.83	416.52	37.3	37.1	37.9	12.07	11.99	10.99
BITUMINOUS COAL MINING	659.40	645.54	600.98	42.0	42.0	39.8	15.70	15.37	15.10
COMMUNICATIONS	525.23	535.31	550.54	39.7	39.8	40.6	13.23	13.45	13.56
ELECTRIC, GAS, & SANITARY	689.31	672.31	629.77	44.3	43.6	42.9	15.56	15.42	14.68
GENERAL MERCHANDISE STORES	188.75	186.91	173.66	29.4	28.8	28.1	6.42	6.49	6.18

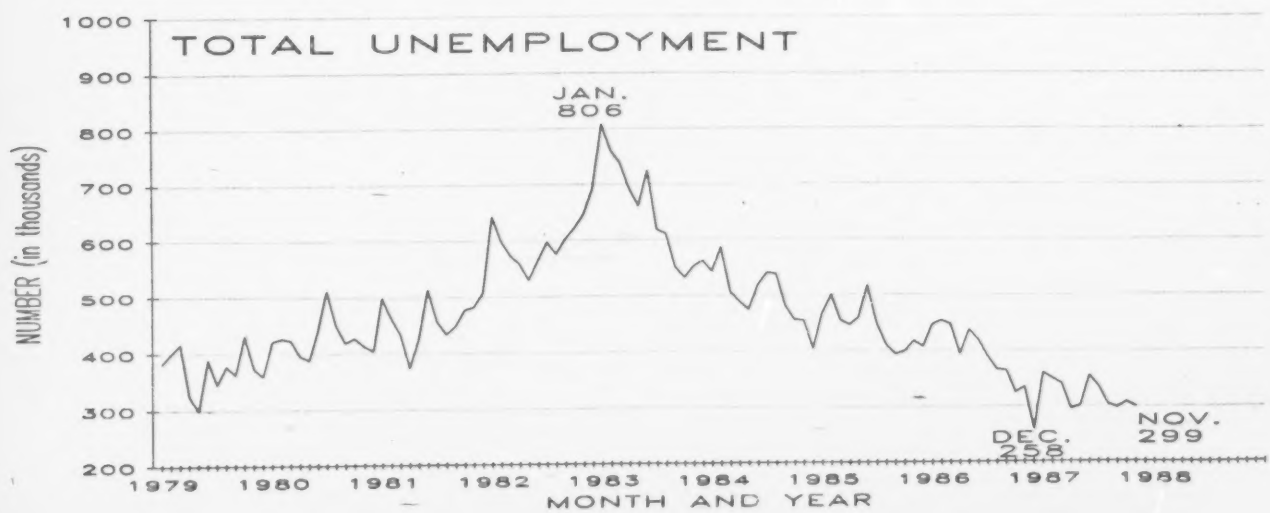
P/ = Preliminary data; subject to revision.

PENNSYLVANIA ECONOMIC INDICATORS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED



PENNSYLVANIA ECONOMIC INDICATORS
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED



PENNSYLVANIA ECONOMIC INDICATORS

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED